



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kintu O. Early et al.

Examiner: TBA

Serial No: 10/021,366

Group Art Unit: 2874

Filed: 12/12/01

For: TREATING SOOT PREFORMS WITH A  
REDUCING AGENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 – 1.98

Asst. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231


Dear Sir:

The Examiner's attention is hereby directed to the following reference(s) listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. One copy of the reference(s) is enclosed.

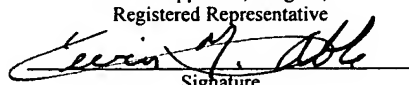
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the enclosed documents constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the submitted documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant(s) reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant(s) further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the enclosed references, should one or more of the references be applied against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kevin Able  
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SP-TI-03-1  
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Date: 7/1/02

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|---|--------|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Asst. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 |        |
| on  | 7/1/02 |
| Date of Deposit   |        |
| Kevin Able  |        |
| Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative   |        |
|   |        |
| Signature   |        |
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| Date of Signature   |        |

FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

LIST OF PATENTS AND  
PUBLICATIONS

SP00-380

10/021,366

FOR APPLICANTS INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

APPLICANT Early et al.

FILING DATE 2874

GROUP: 12/12/01

## REFERENCE DESIGNATION

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner<br>Initial |    | Document Number | Date    | Name         | Class | Sub-<br>Class | Filing Date<br>if Approp. |
|---------------------|----|-----------------|---------|--------------|-------|---------------|---------------------------|
|                     | AA | 6,376,401       | 4/23/02 | Kondo et al. | 501   | 54            |                           |
|                     | AB |                 |         |              |       |               |                           |
|                     | AC |                 |         |              |       |               |                           |
|                     | AD |                 |         |              |       |               |                           |
|                     | AE |                 |         |              |       |               |                           |
|                     | AF |                 |         |              |       |               |                           |
|                     | AG |                 |         |              |       |               |                           |
|                     | AH |                 |         |              |       |               |                           |
|                     | AI |                 |         |              |       |               |                           |
|                     | AJ |                 |         |              |       |               |                           |
|                     | AK |                 |         |              |       |               |                           |

COPY OF PAPERS  
ORIGINALLY FILED

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  |    | Document Number | Date   | Country | Class | Sub-<br>Class | Translation<br>Yes No |
|--|----|-----------------|--------|---------|-------|---------------|-----------------------|
|  | AL | DE 19942443     | 3/9/00 | Germany | C03C  | 4/10          |                       |
|  | AM |                 |        |         |       |               | X                     |
|  | AN |                 |        |         |       |               |                       |
|  | AO |                 |        |         |       |               |                       |
|  | AP |                 |        |         |       |               |                       |
|  | AQ |                 |        |         |       |               |                       |

## OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

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|  | AR |  |
|  | AS |  |
|  | AT |  |
|  | AU |  |
|  | AV |  |
|  | AW |  |

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.